

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) Actuating device for a lock in a door or hatch of a motor vehicle,

-- with a lock cylinder (10), which has a lock (15) located a certain axial distance away and a one-piece shaft (20) extending between the lock cylinder and the lock;

-- the ~~which~~ shaft transmits (13) a torque (12) to the lock (15) when the lock cylinder (10) is rotated;

-- where the one-piece shaft (20) is flexible (14.1-14.4) in an axial direction (14) of the shaft (20) to compensate for a radial offset (18, 19) between the axis (16) of the lock cylinder (10) and the lock (15), wherein

-- the one-piece shaft (20) is made of flexible material (29) and has a family of notches (25, 25') extending transversely to the axis (14) of the shaft;

-- the ~~which~~ notches are recessed in pairs (25, 25') into the one-piece shaft (20) from diametrically opposing sides (21, 22 and 23, 24), the notches each having two flanks; wherein

-- when the one-piece shaft (20) is stretched out straight, the two flanks (26, 26; 26', 26') of the notches (25, 25') are essentially parallel to each other and extend radially with respect to the axis (14) of the one-piece shaft; wherein

-- the notch pairs (25, 26') leave a web (27, 27') in the one-piece shaft (20) between the flanks (26, 26; 26', 26');

-- the ~~which~~ web is located on the axis (14) of the shaft and has a web length (28, 28') that extends essentially across the entire diameter (30) of the one-piece shaft (20) and a web width that extends in the direction of the axis (14); wherein

-- the web ~~webs~~ (27, 27') produces ~~produce~~ flex points, ~~at which,~~ when bending load is exerted on the one-piece shaft (20), the two flanks (26, 26; 26', 26') of the notch pairs (25, 25') can swing toward (38 138, 38') or away (37, 37') from each other at the flex points; wherein

-- intermediate axial pieces (40), extending in the axial direction (14) of the shaft and with the full cross section of the shaft (40), remain between successive pairs of diametrically opposing notches (25, 25'); and wherein

-- a driver (31) for actuating the lock (15 or 15' or 25") and/or a connection (32) for the lock cylinder (10) is formed integrally on the one-piece shaft (20).

2. (Previously presented) Device according to Claim 1, wherein the driver (31) has the form of a paddle.

3. (Currently Amended) Device according to Claim 1, ~~comprising a connection (32),~~ wherein an overload element (33) is integrated into the connection (32),

-- the ~~which~~ overload element, when the lock cylinder (10) is actuated as normal by the key, ensures a nonrotatable connection between a ~~the~~ cylinder core (11) and the connection (32) at the outer end of the one-piece shaft (20), but also wherein,

-- when the lock cylinder (10) is actuated forcibly, as a result of which a specific torque limit is exceeded, the overload element (33) lets the cylinder core (11) and the driver (31) for the lock (15) rotate freely with respect to each other.